

Agenda

- Case Team Introductions
- Participant Instructions for the Virtual Meeting
- MassDPH Presentation
- EPA Updates
 - o Schedule for Negotiations to Implement Cleanup
 - o Containment Area Activities & Private Well Surveys
 - o Data Gap Investigation Updates
- Other Remarks
 - o Town of Wilmington
 - o Wilmington Environmental Restoration Committee
- Question-and-Answer Session

06/23/2021



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Options for Participating

- 1) Go to EPA's website and click on the link to join the Olin virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams (Note: Your computer microphone will be muted)
- 2) Watch on Wilmington Community Television, WCTV (Comcast Channel 9 or Verizon Channel 37)
- 3) To listen and/or ask questions over the phone, dial 857-299-6148 and enter code 843451080 #

Participate in the Question and Answer Session

1) Type in questions/comments in the Microsoft Teams chat window.

If dialing in by phone to ask a question,
PLEASE MUTE YOUR COMPUTER OR
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06/23/2021



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9

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06/23/2021



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Wilmington Childhood Cancer Study Study Overview



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Heath

Alicia J Fraser, DSc Director, Environmental Epidemiology Bureau of Enironmental Health

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EPA's Olin Chemical Superfund Site Informational Town Meeting
June 23, 2021

11



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Community Engagement

- Concerned Residents
- Community Groups
 - Kelly Hill Group
 - Wilmington Childhood Cancer Study Advisory Committee
 - WERC
 - · Families impacted by childhood cancer
- Wilmington Board of Health (BOH)
- State Representative James Miceli

13

13



Technical Contributions

- Engineering Consultants
 - John Durant
- Peter Shanahan

Bruce Jacobs

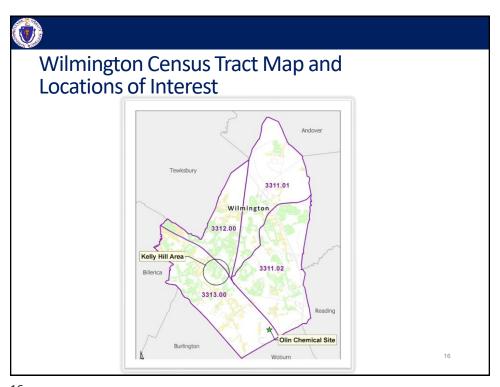
Jayne Knott

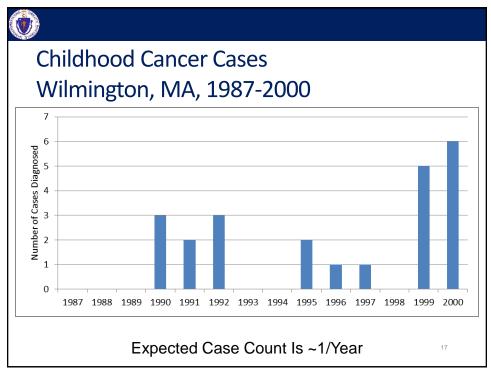
- Jeff Walker
- Wilmington Water & Sewer Division
- MA DEP
- US EPA
- Peer Reviewers
 - Morris Maslia
 - Noelle Selin
 - Mary Ward

14



STUDY BACKGROUND







Environmental Contaminants

- In 2003, a carcinogenic compound (n-nitrosodimethylamine or NDMA) was found in the groundwater supplying part of the town's public drinking water. The contaminated supply wells were brought off-line.
 - Olin Chemical Site (1953-1986)
- The study shifted focus to concentrate on the potential for historical exposure to NDMA and whether such exposure may be related to childhood cancer incidence.
- Another carcinogenic chemical, trichloroethylene or TCE, was previously present in the water supply during part of the study period, and the study evaluates the potential role of TCE exposure, as well.



METHODS OVERVIEW

19

19



Participant Selection

Case / Control Design

- 18 cases participated out of 21 eligible
 - 11 leukemia/lymphoma
 - 12 boys, 6 girls
- 74 controls matched on age and sex
 - ~5 per case
- Interviews with each participant
 - Full family medical history, residential history, health behaviors such as alcohol and cigarette use, occupational and residential exposure potentials

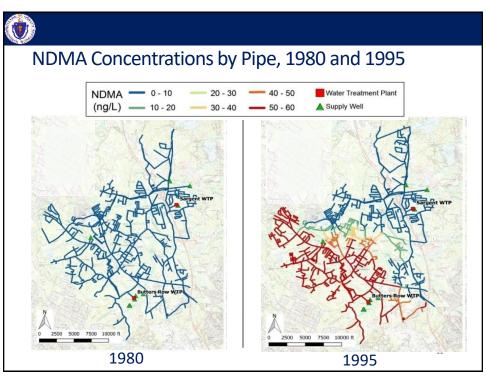


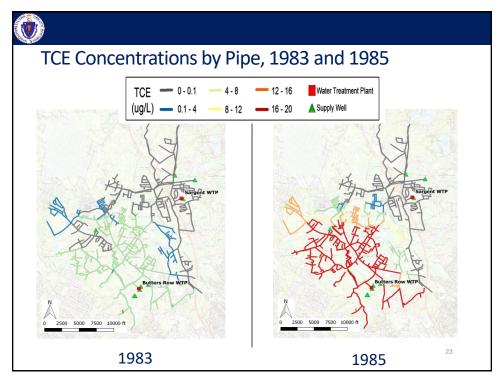
Exposure Assessment

- Historical Drinking Water Concentration Modeling
 - · Groundwater flow model
 - · Contaminant fate and transport model
 - Public drinking water distribution system model
- · Estimated monthly concentration at the tap
 - NDMA (1974-2000)
 - TCE (1981-2000)
- Etiologic Periods
 - Maternal (in-utero): During the year prior to birth
 - · Childhood: From birth to diagnosis or reference date

21

21







Analysis

- Exposure Metric
 - Average of all non-zero modeled monthly concentrations of NDMA or TCE
 - Dichotomous (ever/never)
 - Categorical (zero/low/high)
- Cancer Type Groupings
 - All Cancers
 - Leukemia/Lymphoma
- Primary home drinking water source
 - Bottled or Tap, asked per residence
 - Available for maternal analysis only
- Other Risk Factors



Risk Factors Evaluated

- Length of residence in Wilmington
- · Mother's education
- · Family history of cancer
- Prenatal Factors
 - Maternal age at birth
 - Vitamin use
 - Smoking
 - · Alcohol intake
- Pregnancy exposures
 - · Diagnostic x-ray
 - Mononucleosis
 - Ultrasonography
 - · Ionizing radiation

- Adverse Birth Events
 - Given oxygen
 - Placed in incubator
 - · Low or high birth weight
- Child's history
 - Breastfed
 - Mononucleosis
 - Antihistamine use
- Household Exposures
 - · Second-hand smoke
 - Bug repellent or pesticides
 - · Metals, alloys, solders
 - · Plastics, synthetics, resins
 - Exhaust fumes
 - Herbicides

25

25



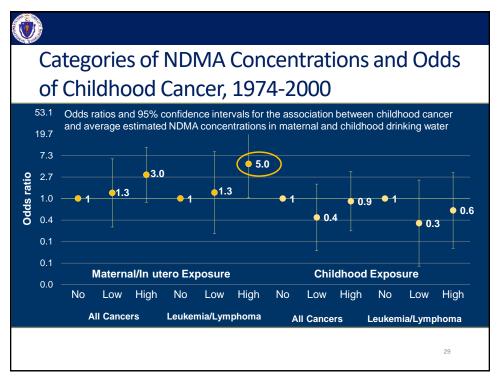
Statistical Inference

- Odds Ratios (OR)
 - 1.0 = No association
 - Larger than 1.0 = Positively association
 - Smaller than 1.0 = Negative association
- 95% confidence intervals
 - · A measure of reliability and precision of the OR
- P-values
 - < 0.05 -- Statistically significant
 - < 0.10 -- Marginally significant</p>
- Other Considerations:
 - Dose-response trends
 - Consistency in the results
 - · Plausibility based on the scientific literature
 - · Potential impact of any confounding, measurement error, or bias



STUDY RESULTS

"Ever/Never" NDMA in drinking water and odds of childhood cancer, 1974-2000			
	Cases v. Control	s OR	P-value
All Cancers			
Maternal	50% v. 34%	2.2	0.18
Childhood	78% v. 84%	0.7	0.55
Leukemia/Lymphom	<u>a</u>		
Maternal	64% v. 36%	2.9	0.12
Childhood	73% v. 84%	0.5	0.38





TCE Concentrations and Odds of Childhood Cancer, 1981-2000

- Maternal Exposure
 - Ever/Never
 - Any Cancer type OR = 2.3 (p=0.32)
 - Leukemia or Lymphoma OR = 1.7 (p=0.55)
 - Categorical Analysis
 - Any Cancer type LOW vs. NO exposure OR = 4.2 (p=0.26)
 - Leukemia or Lymphoma LOW vs. NO exposure OR = 1.9 (p=0.51)
- Childhood TCE Exposure
 - No evidence of a positive association



CONCLUSIONS

31

31



Key Findings

- Despite limitations, including a small sample size and modeled exposure estimates, study results show an association between childhood cancer and prenatal exposure to NDMA, or NDMA and TCE.
- This association is observed consistently in a series of analyses and the results are statistically significant with respect to the subset of leukemia or lymphoma diagnoses.
- These associations exhibit a dose-response trend in which higher estimated exposures result in higher odds of cancer.
- The associations remained positive even after adjustment for other known risk factors.
- For exposure to NDMA or TCE during childhood, however, there was no evidence of an increased odds of cancer.

32



Additional Notes

- Childhood cancer incidence in Wilmington returned to expected rates beginning in 2001 and DPH will continue to monitor all childhood cancer diagnoses in Wilmington.
- Note that 50% of children with cancer in the study were estimated to have experienced no exposure to NDMA or TCE and 34% of control children were exposed to one or both contaminants. The study's findings are most appropriately understood as a possible increase in risk on a population level rather than a determination of causation at an individual level.
- Wilmington's public drinking water is no longer contaminated with NDMA or TCE and currently poses no known risk to health.
- Olin Chemical is an active Superfund Site managed by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

33

33



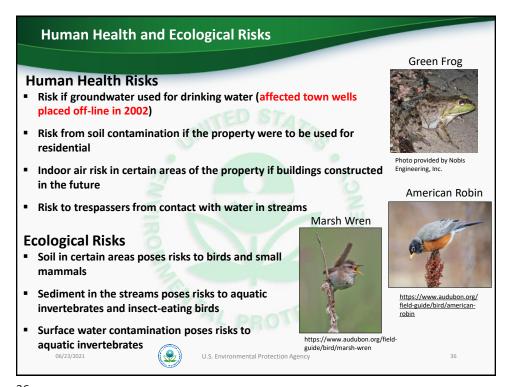
THANK YOU

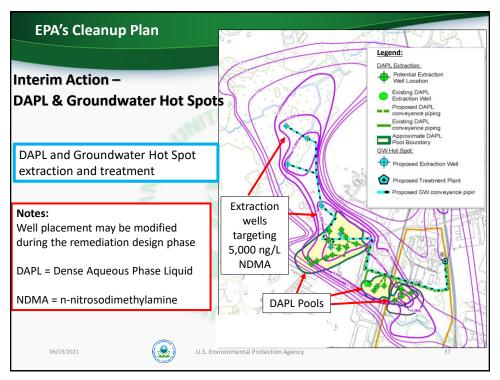
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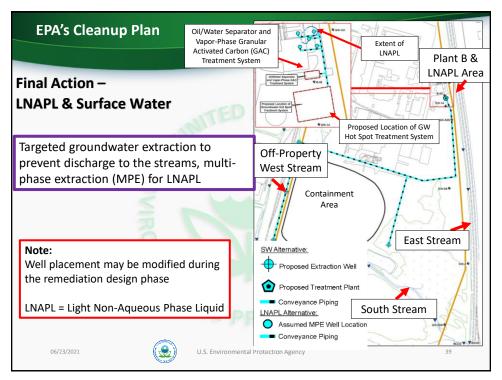
34











DAPL and GW Hot Spots - \$35.5 million LNAPL and Surface Water - \$6.6 million Soil and Sediments - \$6.1 million Total - \$48.2 million

Negotiations to Implement the Cleanup

Negotiating the Design and Implementation of the Cleanup

- In June 2021, issue Special Notice letters inviting RPs to negotiate to conduct the cleanup
- By September 2021, RPs must provide good faith offer to perform work or pay for cleanup
- Goal of March/April 2022 to complete negotiations and enter enforcement agreement
- Throughout 2022, work with RPs to design the remedy

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41

41



Containment Area Updates

- Breach in the cap in November 2020
- Since November 2020, Olin has been required to repair and frequently inspect the cap until a more robust temporary cap is installed
- Construction of the replacement temporary cap scheduled for late summer/fall





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43

43

Temporary Cap Upgrades

Upgrades to the replacement temporary cap include:

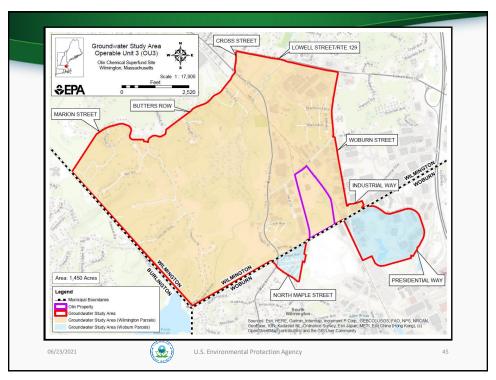
- Importation of clean fill and regrading to a minimum 2% slope
- Upgrading of the geomembrane liner from the 6-mil and 8-mil polyethylene liner to a 60-mil texturized HDPE liner
- Construction of interior and perimeter anchor trenches to secure the temporary cap without needing sandbags
- Installation of a 10-foot chain link fence to prevent wildlife from walking over and tearing the new temporary cap

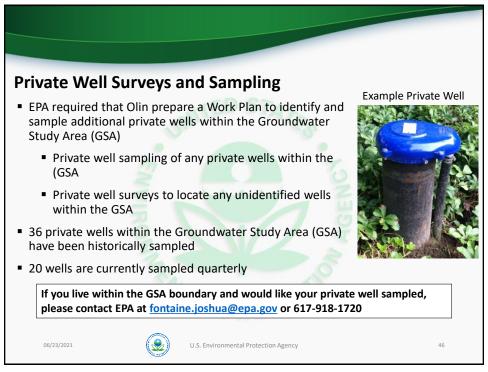
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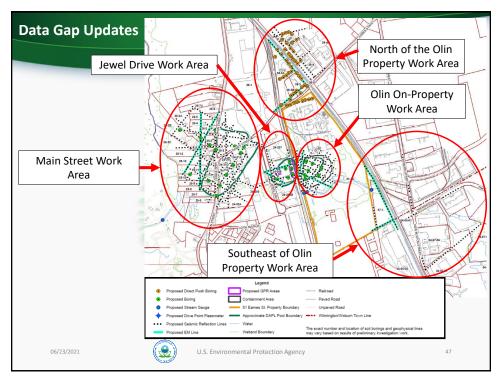


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44













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06/23/2021



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51

51

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Contacts for More Information www.epa.gov/superfund/olin

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06/23/2021



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55

55

Question and Answer Session

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- PLEASE MUTE YOUR COMPUTER OR TELEVISION BEFORE YOU SPEAK.

If dialing in by phone to ask a question,

PLEASE MUTE YOUR COMPUTER OR TELEVISION AUDIO

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Olin Chemical Superfund Site Webpage: www.epa.gov/superfund/olin

06/23/2021



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50